

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the courtesy shown by the Examiner in discussing this case with the Applicants representative, Rong Yang, on May 28, 2010. The Examiner indicated that the revisions made in the Amendment and Response filed May 19, 2010 would distinguish over the references of record. The Examiner indicated some additional editorial revisions might be useful for clarity. The discussions of the interview are reflected in the above amendments and the following remarks.

Reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claim 1 has been revised. Support for the revisions in claim 1 can be found at, e.g., and Figs. 7, 8A-B. Claims 1-21 remain pending in the application.

Claims 1-8 and 19-21 are rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Garthe et al. (US Publication No. 2003/0225429). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 further recites a main body of a lancet being fixed to the lancet holder with a first fixing force for limiting axial removal of the lancet from the lancet holder and a non-fixing position in which the main body of the lancet is held by the lancet holder with a second fixing force smaller than the first fixing force for facilitating axial removal of the lancet from the lancet holder. Garthe et al. fail to teach or suggest this arrangement. For at least these reasons, claim 1 is patentable over Garthe et al. Claims 2-8 and 19-20 depend ultimately from claim 1 and are patentable along with claim 1 and need not be separately distinguished at this time. Applicants are not conceding the relevance of the rejection to the remaining features of the rejected claims.

Claim 21 further requires the second member including a movable fixing portion that moves in a direction crossing the needle extending direction for fixing contact with the main body of the lancet in response to the movement of the second member from the non-fixing position to the fixing position. Garthe et al. provide no teachings of this arrangement. The rejection refers to the groove 52 as disclosing the movable fixing portion required by claim 21. Applicants respectfully submit that the groove 52 in Garthe et al. would by no means moves in a direction crossing the needle extending direction for

fixing contact with a main body of the lancet 30. For at least these reasons, claim 21 is patentable over Garthe et al.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

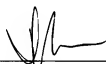
In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Douglas P. Mueller, Reg. No. 30,300, at (612) 455-3804.



Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &
LARSON, P.C.
P.O. Box 2902-0902
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902
(612) 455-3800

Dated: June 18, 2010

By: 
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/cy